

Amendments to the Claims

1. (Original) A polypeptide encoding a non-constitutively active nuclear orphan receptor (non-CAR) comprising a mutation in a native CAR sequence, wherein the mutation renders the polypeptide less constitutively active.

2. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the mutation corresponds to murine CAR (mCAR) position Thr176, mCAR position Leu352, mCAR position Leu353, human CAR (hCAR) position Leu342, and/or hCAR position Leu343.

3. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the mutation corresponds to mCAR position Thr176.

4. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the mutation corresponds to mCAR position Thr176 and mCAR position Leu352.

5. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 3, wherein the mutation is a Thr176 to Val176 (T176V) mutation or a Thr176 to Leu176 (T176L) mutation.

6. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 2, wherein the mutation corresponds to hCAR position Leu342 and hCAR position Leu343.

7. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 2, wherein the mutation is a Leu352 to Ala352 (L352A) mutation.

8. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 2, wherein the mutation is a Leu342 to Ala342 (L342A) mutation or a Leu343 to Ala343 (L343A) mutation.

9. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide further comprises one or more conservative amino acid substitutions which do not substantially decrease the non-constitutive activity of the polypeptide.

10. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide confers xenochemical metabolizing activity to a xenochemical-metabolizing enzyme, and wherein the xenochemical metabolizing activity can be detected *in vitro*.

11. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 10, wherein expression of the xenochemical-metabolizing enzyme is regulated by an enhancer element.

12. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 10, wherein the xenochemical-metabolizing enzyme metabolizes a xenochemical selected from the group consisting of phenobarbital and 1,4-bis [2-(3,5-dichloropyridyloxy)] benzene (TCPOBOP).

13. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide confers steroid metabolizing activity to a steroid-metabolizing enzyme, and wherein the steroid metabolizing activity can be detected *in vitro*.

14. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 13, wherein the steroid-metabolizing enzyme metabolizes a steroid selected from the group consisting of estrogen and estradiol.

15. (Original) The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the polypeptide is purified.

16. (Original) A kit comprising the polypeptide of claim 1, and a steroid and/or a xenochemical.

17. (Original) A composition comprising the polypeptide of claim 1.

18. – 35. (Canceled)